

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

Springlads

LIBRARY
RECEIVED

MAR 23 1950



U. S. Department of Agriculture

The Longest Little List of Sub-Zero Hardy Spring Blooming Eurasian Gladiolus Species

The wild gladiolus species listed herein are found only in parts of Europe and Asia, with a few scattered duplications along the northern coast of Africa. They are among the rarest of worthy hardy flowers, seldom seen in American gardens, yet easier to grow than the summer kinds. These truly miniature forms of a favorite garden flower have had thorough testing in my experimental garden before introduction, and withstood thousands of years of weather before I got them.

THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS, SUMERIANS,
PERSIANS, PHOENICIANS, GREEKS, ROMANS
AND CRUSADERS KNEW THESE FLOWERS
—DO YOU?

PHILIP O. BUCH

106 ROCKAWAY AVE.,
ROCKAWAY, NEW JERSEY

Copyright 1950. All rights reserved.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

The Eurasian gladiolus species, earliest known yet most neglected, are presented in this first exclusive listing for your consideration:

1. There is no good reason why these hardy little flowers cannot be improved. Experiments have shown that it can be done and hybridizing has been started in this new field. There is room for you, too, if so inclined.
 2. If you sell cut flowers, these are NEW! But you must work up your own stocks from a small start, as I did. There are not enough in captivity now for the wholesale trade, but I might spare some cormels or seeds to patient commercial growers who will inquire on their letterheads.
 3. If you grow flowers for their beauty, for the decoration of your home, you cannot go wrong with these rarest of gladiolus. No dips—no thrips—no muss—no fuss. Use in the rock garden, hardy border, or they will naturalize as easily as daffodils.
 4. If you exhibit at the spring shows you can expect to add blue ribbons to your collection with these glads. There are probably none within miles of your home, but watch out—there will be!
- WHY NOT BE FIRST?

— — — — —

I am test-growing about as many more species as are listed and have collectors scouring Europe and Asia for those still missing from my collection, including many known varieties. Stocks must be built up here from the few so imported, which takes time, but eventually they will be listed. I suggest trying a few of those listed this year—next year you will want more, whether you are a normal gardener or an abnormal glad fan.

NOTE: Figures following name indicate approximate height in inches. Those in parentheses show the lowest winter temperatures withstood here (all below zero F.) since I have grown them. Blooming dates are for approximate latitude of New York City, but at 550 feet altitude in northern New Jersey.

— — — — —

G. ANATOLICUS. 24 (-14) One of the rarer species from Armenia. Two to six violet-red and white flowers, flowers $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, with tiny oblique purple lines on folded lower segments. Lovely in mid-May. 3 for \$1.35; 6 for \$2.55; 12 for \$4.80; 25 for \$9.40.

G. BYZANTINUS. 30 (-30) A better known species from the rim of the Mediterranean, with 7 to 15 light violet-red flowers, 2 in. wide, largest of the group. A white line, edged darker purple, is on each lower segment. Early June. 3 for \$1.00; 6 for \$1.80; 12 for \$3.35; 25 for \$6.55.

G. BYZANTINUS ALBUS. 24 (-16) This pure white variety, introduced by me in 1949, seems to be a shy bloomer with smaller flowers than the type. I am not certain that it is correctly named, but that is how it came to me. Rare now, but when more plentiful should be a natural for June bridal uses. \$1.50 each; 3 for \$4.05; 6 for \$7.65; 12 for \$14.40.

G. COMMUNIS. 34 (-20) From southern Europe, bearing 5 to 15 light purplish-red flowers about an inch wide, with the typical purple-bordered white median line. Mid-June. Rare. \$2.00 each, one to a customer.

G. COMMUNIS CARNEUS. 25 (-16) This lovely rose-pink variety, after being lost to commerce for years, is being reintroduced this year after a fortunate find. One of the prettiest of the group, with the typical white median line outlined in purple. Sometimes shows purple lines on the side segments. Mid-June. Very rare. \$3.00 each, one to a customer.

G. ILLYRICUS. 18 (-17) A native of southern Europe, with up to 10 reddish purple (magenta) flowers, about 1 in. wide, with purple-edged white median lines on lower segments. Mid-June. Scarce. \$1.00 each; 3 for \$2.70; 6 for \$5.10; 12 for \$9.60.

G. SEGETUM. 33 (-30) Another from the rim of the Mediterranean. Bears 6 to 12 light carmine-red flowers, $1\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide, with dark violet-red blotches and white median lines on lower segments. Early June. 3 for \$1.35; 6 for \$2.55; 12 for \$4.80; 25 for \$9.40.

EURASIAN SPECIES SEEDS—Sometimes available, but not listed because I do not always harvest a crop from every species. If interested, write, and I will tell you what fresh seed is available, with prices.

AND—A HARDY HYBRID:

G. Tubergeni "CHARM." 26 (-14) This pretty rose and white hybrid is of European origin, a combination of five South African species, with 3 in. flowers. Culture same as for the Eurasians, or can be forced from April on. Early June outside. 3 for \$1.00; 6 for \$1.80; 12 for \$3.35; 25 for \$6.55.

FOR YOUR GUIDANCE:

Mature corms of Eurasian species are naturally small, and only blooming sizes will be sent in the quantities and at the prices quoted. Orders are filled in rotation and delivered prepaid, starting in September, with simple cultural directions included. None available after October 10, when planting starts here.

TERMS — Cash with order. If you delay too long, you may have to wait until next year. There is not a full acre of these in America. If sold out, I can "Back Order," or hold your order for preference next year, if this is agreeable.

All species are guaranteed true to name, proven hardy at the sub-zero temperatures recorded, and are grown without artificial watering, chemicals, or mulch, right here in New Jersey.